

Chair, Families & Human Services Committee Appropriations Committee: Chair, Family Independence Agency, Commerce Labor & Economic Development, Capitol Outlay, Higher Education

AUGUST 2005

SENATOR HARDIMAN'S SB352 SIGNED INTO LAW

SB352 now Public Act 73 of 2005 sponsored by Hardiman will enable Michigan pharmacies to be able to better to compete in today's marketplace by participating in mail-order prescription services. Hardiman's legislation will allow "centralized prescription processing" services, which means one pharmacy would be able to fill a request from another pharmacy to fill a prescription. His legislation, P.A.73 of 2005 eliminates the ban on mail-order services for Michigan based pharmacies.

The goal of P.A. 73 is to level the playing field by allowing Michigan based pharmacies to participate in mail-order services. Earlier this year the Michigan Senate passed a bill that would allow for mail-order prescription services, but did not lift the ban on Michigan based companies Hardiman's bill takes that extra step

SENATOR HARDIMAN'S CHILD SAFETY BILL MOVES IN THE HOUSE

Legislation proposed by Sen. Bill Hardiman R-Kentwood, that would keep felons and dangerous individuals out of the classroom won Senate approval today. His bill came as part of a package of bills introduced by House and Senate Republicans.

As part of GOP legislation, Hardiman proposed Senate Bill 615, which would require the Michigan Department of Human Services to do fingerprint-based background checks on all daycare center licensees and require daycare centers to do background checks on all paid employees. Hardiman's legislation would also prohibit daycare centers from employing convicted sex offenders.

SB615 was approved by the House Judiciary Committee and is now on second reading on the House Floor.

SENATOR HARDIMAN APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF NCSL COMMITTEE

The National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) is a bipartisan organization that serves the legislators and staffs of the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths and territories. They provide research, technical assistance and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on the most pressing state issues. NCSL has 15 standing committees, Senator Hardiman has been appointed to chair the Human Services and Welfare Committee.

The Human Services and Welfare Committee has jurisdiction over NCSL's state and federal work in four major categories: social services, income security, food and nutrition, and immigration. This Committee also works with states on engaging faith-based organizations and proposals supporting healthy marriages.

The Committee will meet three times each year and allow legislators and staff to benefit from the experiences of other states in shaping public policy, experimenting with new laws, and managing the legislative institutions.

HARDIMAN NAMED LEGISLATOR OF YEAR BY HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Senator Hardiman was recently selected by the Michigan Association of Health Plans (MAHP) as the first recipient of the "MAHP Legislator of the Year". This award recognizes a legislator who has demonstrated initiative and leadership in the support of issues consistent with the Michigan Association of Health Plans mission of the promotion and advocacy of high quality, affordable, accessible health care for Michigan Citizens.

Senator Hardiman was formally presented with this award at the MAHP Summer conference in Traverse City earlier this month.

HARDIMAN PARTICIPATED IN THE 2005 BILLD CONFERECE IN MADISON, WISCONSIN

Senator Hardiman was among 37 selected lawmakers chosen to participate in the Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD). This is a training program that annually identifies and assists promising state leaders in the Midwest.

The Senator met with fellow lawmakers from Michigan and 10 other Midwestern states and the Canadian provinces of Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan in Madison Wisconsin earlier this month.

BILLD was founded in 1995 to help new legislators meet the demands of program devolution and, in many states, term limits.

SENATOR HARDIMAN DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Office hours will be held on the first Monday of each month from 10:00am - 11:30am throughout the 29th district. On Monday, September 12, Senator Hardiman will be holding monthly district office hours at. Grand Rapids Urban League, 745 Eastern Ave Se, Grand Rapids, 49503.

Be sure to talk to the Senator at these upcoming office hours:

- ▶ Monday, October 3, 2005, Lowell YMCA, 1335 W. Main, Lowell, MI 49331
- ▶ Monday, November 7, 2005, Kentwood Library, 4700 Kalamazoo SE, Kentwood, MI 49508

Senator Hardiman will hold this time each month so constituents of the 29th district have an opportunity to speak to him about any questions or concerns they may have regarding state issues. You can also contact Senator Hardiman via his toll-free number: 1-866-305-2129 or e-mail: senbhardiman@senate.michigan.gov to set-up a meeting outside of the district hours.

Senator Hardiman will have a cell phone collection box available with him when he holds District Office Hours. Again, this donation will go to the victims of domestic violence. If you have a cell phone to donate, please stop by district office hours.

Together we can help the victims of domestic violence, one step at a time

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Hardiman Herald is designed to provide residents and organizations with a timely update of Senator Bill Hardiman's activity in Lansing. If you have any questions, please contact Senator Hardiman's office.

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